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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
                FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA
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    STATE OF OKLAHOMA, et al.,
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          Plaintiff,
                             CASE NO. 05-CV-00329-GKF-SAJ
    vs.
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    TYSON FOODS, INC., et al.,
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          Defendants.
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          VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF MARK DERICHSWEILER
               TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANTS
          ON AUGUST 8, 2008, BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M.
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                   IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA
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    REPORTED BY: Laura L. Robertson, CSR, RPR
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been designated by the state of Oklahoma as a representative authorized to testify on prior topics, and I think in your, the first of those depositions we spent some time going through your work history. Do you recall that testimony?

A. Yes.

- Q. And I don't want to repeat it today, but was there anything about your testimony regarding your work history that was incorrect in the prior deposition?
  - A. No.
- Q. Okay. And you also provided in that first deposition a document where you summarized the positions you have held during your tenure as an employee of the state of Oklahoma; correct?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. And is that document still accurate?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. All right. Now, just for purposes so that we can have a complete record in this deposition, would you please identify any -- your higher education post high school degrees received, institutions and years?
- A. I received my BS degree in civil engineering from University of Oklahoma in 1976, and a master's

9 1 degree in regional and city planning also from the University of Oklahoma in 1981. All right. Do you hold any licenses or certifications? A. I am a Registered Professional Engineer in the state of Oklahoma. 7 And what was the year of your initial registration? I believe that was in 1980. Α. 10 Q. Have you been continuously registered since 11 that -- since 1980? Yes. Α. And is there a specific classification for 13 Q. 14 your engineering registration? 15 There is not. When I became registered, it 16 was just registered engineer, they didn't have areas 17 of specialization or areas of interest, so it was just 18 a general. 19 All right. Now, if you can explain briefly, Q. and I am during the course of this morning, 20

Mr. Derichsweiler, going to try to not ask you to

repeat things that we have already gone through,

except to the extent that I may need to for a little

And one of the items of background that I

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background.

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would like you to explain briefly again is how your job function with the Department of Environmental Quality relates to the activities, conditions or programs of the state that are relevant to the Illinois River Watershed?

A. My section is responsible for compiling the results of water quality monitoring and the assessments of those data compared against Water Quality Standards to identify impaired waters, which are included on the 303(d) list, as it is called for the state, which is included in our biannual, every two year report that we send to EPA.

We are also responsible for conducting the TMDLs, Total Maximum Daily Load studies for those impaired waters. We also review activities in surrounding states, including Arkansas, so permits and other things that could be within the watershed as well as in the other surrounding states, those reviews are done by myself.

Q. All right. Also during the course of the day there's certain lingo or terms that are common in your profession that I think your average citizen may not be familiar with, so I'm going to ask you to identify or explain what some of those mean.

So tell us what the 303(d) list is?

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question, please.

- A. Okay.
- Q. Have you formed any expert opinions on whether the land application of poultry litter in the Illinois River Watershed far exceeds the capacity of the soils and vegetation to absorb the nutrients?
  - A. No.
- $\mathbf{Q}$ . All right. Let me ask you to do the same with paragraph 52, please.
  - A. Okay.
- Q. Have you formed any expert opinions as to whether the land application of poultry litter in the Illinois River Watershed has led to the runoff and release of large quantities of phosphorous or other alleged hazardous substances, pollutants and contaminants from the fields, where the litter was applied to waters in the Illinois River Watershed?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. All right. Explain that opinion.
- A. We have conducted studies with looking at the loading of phosphorous within the watershed, poultry waste and litter disposal has been identified as generating large quantities.
  - Q. Of what?
  - A. Phosphorous.

- $\mathbf{Q}$ . All right. Now, what is the basis for this opinion?
- A. The water quality studies that we have conducted in the efforts that we have made, the attempts to develop the TMDL for phosphorous in the Illinois River Watershed.
- $\mathbf{Q}$ . All right. Let's go through and identify the studies you refer to.
- A. I believe the first one that was done was the Clean Lakes study conducted by the Water Resources Board through Oklahoma State University. We have several reports from Dr. Storm that DEQ was done under contract to DEQ.

The studies done by Dynamic Solutions, also under contract to DEQ. And Aquaterra, the subcontractor which we discussed somewhat last time. Those are the primary ones. There have been others that I couldn't cite to you directly right now.

- Q. So in answering my question that was drawn from paragraph 52 when you answered it yes, you are relying on these studies that you just identified for me?
  - A. Yes.
- $\mathbf{Q}$ . The Clean Lakes study was in the '90s. Do you recall when it was issued?

- A. I believe it was the early '90s.
- Q. Do you recall the specific year?
- A. No.

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- Q. Now, you answered a lot of questions about Dr. Storm's work in your prior deposition, so I don't want to repeat all of that, but at the time of your last deposition I believe you testified that you were expecting a revised report from Dr. Storm in June or July. You nodded. Is that a yes?
  - A. I believe I did testify to that.
  - Q. Okay. What is the status?
  - A. We still have not received the report.
  - **Q.** And what is the expected delivery?
- A. I don't have a current estimate. The last discussion I had with Dr. Storm they were having some problems with the coding and some of the model code that they had developed. Still trying to work out the bugs in the model code.
- ${f Q}.$  Has Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality given Dr. Storm a deadline for his work product?
- A. I believe the contract runs through December.
- Q. What happens if he doesn't deliver by the end date of the contract?

identification of loading from poultry litter as opposed to other pasture sources.

- Q. Now, if you were to appear at the trial of this matter and if you were to offer such an opinion, you would be conveying essentially the conclusions reached by Dr. Storm or the Dynamic Solutions' people; correct?
  - A. Conclusions that I agreed with, yes.
  - Q. You agree with, but that they developed?
  - A. Well, it is in their reports, yes.
- Q. You may think me tedious, but I'm trying to be clear about when you sat down and work that you conducted, versus when you reviewed the work of others. And I need to be -- I need your testimony to be clear what the bases for your opinion.

So I think you have answered the question, and that is when you answered yes when I asked you about expert opinions drawn from the allegations in paragraph 52 that you reviewed the Clean Lakes study, you reviewed Dr. Storm's work, you reviewed the Dynamic Solutions' work, and you think the answer is yes, that there has been a significant loading of phosphorous resulting from the practice of land applying poultry litter?

A. Yes.

the reports that I have seen that have been done.

- Q. All right. And I need your answer to match my question. Have you personally formed an expert opinion based upon the guidelines we set at the beginning of the deposition, that the practice of land applying poultry litter has caused the release of significant quantities of bacteria into any waters in the Illinois River Watershed?
- ${f A.}$  Would you like to run through those again? Or --
  - Q. The criteria?
- A. Yes.
- Q. I'll gladly, because it is important that your answer be precise. They have to be -- to be an expert opinion based upon the qualifications I'm placing on that term, you have to be qualified as an expert in that field by virtue of your knowledge, skill, experience, training or education.

You have to base that opinion on sufficient facts or data. Your opinion must be based upon reliable principles and methods, and your opinion must be based on an application, a reliable application of those principles to the facts of the case, and you must be able to state that opinion within a reasonable degree of scientific or engineering certainty.

1 Again, that applies to all of my questions. 2 I believe my opinion does meet those 3 conditions. 4 And the foundation for that opinion is the 5 work of the experts that have been retained by the Attorney General's office in this case? 6 7 Α. Yes. 8 Have you reviewed the -- let me restate this. With regard to the opinions you're referring 9 10 to, which of the experts are of the Attorney General are you relying on for the opinion about bacteria? 11 I didn't bring any of those reports with me. 12 13 I don't have the names or any titles memorized. 14 So --What have you reviewed that was -- what have 15 16 you been provided that relates to the expert opinions 17 of the experts retained by the Attorney General in 18 this case? 19 I was given copies of the reports prior to Α. the previous depositions. 20 All right. Have you reviewed any of the 21 22 analysis underlying the conclusions stated in the 23 reports?

I'm not sure what you mean.

You reviewed -- did you review any work

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Q.

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paragraph 58?

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Α.

No.

Yes.

1	A. No.
2	Q. Can you specifically identify any human
3	pathogen excuse me, any human pathogen found in
4	poultry litter?
5	A. No.
6	Q. I gather from your work history you're not
7	microbiologist and don't consider yourself an expert
8	in microbiology, would that be correct?
9	A. Yes.
10	Q. All right. Let's look at paragraph 59. Are
11	you ready?
12	A. Such constituents is referring to the list
13	in paragraph 58? Is that the way I interpret this?
14	Q. For the purposes of questioning, assume that
15	it does.
16	A. Okay.
17	Q. Have you developed an expert opinion as to
18	whether or not lands in the Illinois River Watershed

have elevated levels of any constituent listed in

opinion as to whether or not waters in the Illinois

River Watershed have elevated levels of phosphorous?

Do you have, have you developed an expert

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- Q. All right. And is the first question that would be elevated levels of a phosphorous compound, not elemental phosphorous; correct?
  A. It would not be elemental phosphorous, no.
  Q. All right. Now, the -- let's talk about
- A. The assessments that we have conducted of the monitoring data as part of preparation of the

that. What is the basis for that opinion?

- Q. Okay. So that would include information beyond the three studies we talked about earlier this morning, the Clean Lakes study, Dr. Storm's work, Dynamic Solutions. Are you referring to additional information beyond that scope?
  - A. Yes.

303(d) list.

- Q. All right. Can you be a little more specific what you're referring to?
- A. Well, the preparation of the 303(d) report, which analyzes data collected by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, U.S. Geological Survey, the Oklahoma Conservation Commission, and I believe we may have had some data from the Cherokee Nation within the Illinois River Watershed.
- Q. All right. The way this is phrased, rather broadly in paragraph 59, it says waters in the

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Which pathogens?

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    Oklahoma's Water Quality Standard, which is ten
    milligrams per liter.
              All right. Is that the only one?
         Q.
              That's the only one I recall.
         A.
         Q.
              And I believe from your prior testimony, you
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    mentioned the same stream segment and that your
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    opinion, DEQ's opinion, is that this nitrate level is
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    directly associated with the point source discharged
    from Siloam Springs?
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              That's correct.
         Α.
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              All right. Have you formed an opinion, an
    expert opinion as to whether there are elevated levels
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    of arsenic or arsenic compounds within the waters of
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    the Illinois River Watershed?
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         Α.
              No.
              Same question for zinc or zinc compounds?
         Q.
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         Α.
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              Same question for copper or copper
         Q.
19
    compounds?
20
         Α.
              No.
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         Q.
              Same question for hormones?
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              No.
         Α.
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              Same question for microbial pathogens?
         Q.
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         Α.
              Yes.
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biota in the Illinois River Watershed have been injured from any source?

A. No.

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- Q. Have you formed an expert opinion as to whether or not the lands in the Illinois River Watershed have been injured as a result of the practice of land applying poultry litter?
  - A. No.
- Q. Do you have an expert opinion as to whether lands in the Illinois River Watershed have been injured as a result of any other source?
  - A. No.
- **Q.** Have you formed any expert opinion as to whether or not water in the Illinois River Watershed has been injured as a result of the practice of the land application of poultry litter?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. All right. State that opinion.
- 19 A. I believe poultry litter is responsible for
  20 the majority of the loading of phosphorous to Lake
  21 Tenkiller which has damaged the water in Lake
  22 Tenkiller.
  - Q. Is that it?
  - A. Could you restate the question?
  - Q. The question was, I asked you to state

specifically what your -- what opinions you hold with regard to whether or not water in the Illinois River Watershed have been injured as a result of the practice of land applying poultry litter?

- A. I believe poultry litter is also a contributor to the phosphorous levels and the bacteria levels in the streams, which have also violated the Water Quality Standards.
- Q. All right. The first part of your answer a moment ago, you said you believed poultry litter was responsible for a majority of the loading to Lake Tenkiller, but I wasn't sure I heard you say the loading of what?
  - A. Phosphorous.
- Q. All right. Let's start with that.

  Phosphorous loading to Lake Tenkiller. Describe for me the -- what you're relying on as the basis for that opinion.
- A. Again, the loading estimates that have been made in the watershed studies that we have conducted with the reports that we have referred to previously from Dynamic Solutions, from Dr. Storm. The report that was done by the Water Resources Board.
  - Q. Identify that report.
  - A. The Clean Lakes study, which was done by

Oklahoma State University under contract to the Water Resources Board.

Q. What else?

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- A. Those are the three major studies. There have been others.
- Q. I need you to identify them, please. If you're telling me you're relying on them, I need to know what you're relying on?
  - A. I can't identify them specifically today.
- Q. All right. When you say litter is responsible for the majority of the phosphorous loading, explain what you mean by the majority of phosphorous loading?
- $oldsymbol{A}$ . On an annual basis, the mass loading to the lake.
- ${f Q}$ . All right. Explain the basis for using the term majority.
  - A. I'm not sure what you mean by the question.
- Q. Well, as an engineer, if you're going to state an engineering opinion that something is the majority, I assume then you quantify it relative to the total; is that true?
  - A. True.
- ${f Q}$ . All right. Then state your opinion as to what the majority of phosphorous loading to Lake

Is that still --

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- A. I think you asked me to explain what I meant by that, and I think I said, we can ask her to read it back, but I think I said that it was more than any other particular source.
- Q. Okay. So you're saying that of the sources you have evaluated in your opinion litter is the largest?
- A. Let me revise that from majority to the primary, or the largest contributor.
- Q. Okay. All right. That's fine. Any time you want to correct, so that's no problem. All right.

Then let's be clear, the basis, your basis for saying it is the primary source is again based upon the Clean Lakes study, Dr. Storms' work and Dynamic Solutions' work, anything else?

- A. Those are the three major sources, yes.
- Q. All right. Tell me, if you could, provide for me, if you're saying that poultry litter is the primary source, let's list all of the sources that you have evaluated in developing your expert opinion.

MR. NANCE: Object to the form.

THE WITNESS: Loading from point sources, from forest lands, from urban areas, from crop lands. These are just general categories. There are

list of sources which were utilized in modeling performed; correct?

A. Yes.

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- Q. Okay. Did we exhaust your list, point sources, forest, urban, crop, other non-point source, that's what I have heard thus far?
  - A. I believe so.
  - Q. All right. Of point sources, forest, urban, crop and other non-point sources, among those, can you rank them?
    - A. Not right now, no.
  - Q. And what I meant rank, just so I'm sure you understood my question, what I meant rank, I meant from highest annual loading as number one to the lowest. Is that how you understood my question?
    - A. Uh-huh. No.
  - Q. Now, you have not performed your own engineering evaluation of the question as to what degree of, if any, poultry litter is the contributor of phosphorous to waters in the Illinois River Watershed? You have reviewed the work of others?
    - A. That's correct.
  - Q. Now, the Clean Lakes report is, if it was in the early '90s, could be as much as 15 years old, 14, 15 years old. To what extent are the conclusions

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drawn in that report valid today, if you know?
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              I don't think they made any attempt to
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    project 15 years into the future. So they were valid
    at the time the study was done.
              Are you aware in the city of Tulsa case that
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    the federal -- you were aware that city of Tulsa sued
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    certain poultry companies?
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              Yes.
         Α.
              Were you aware that Dr. Storm worked for the
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         Q.
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    city of Tulsa as a retained expert in that case?
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         Α.
              Yes.
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              Are you aware of any rulings that the
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    federal judge made with regard to Dr. Storm's modeling
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    work in that case?
              I have not read any of the court rulings,
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    just what was in the general newspapers.
              Tell me what you know.
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         Q.
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              MR. NANCE: Object to the form. Ambiguous,
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    tell me what you know.
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               (BY MR. MCDANIEL) With regard to the
         Q.
    court's orders with Dr. Storm's work.
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              MR. NANCE: Okay.
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              MR. MCDANIEL: Thank you for making me a
    better lawyer, Bob. Go ahead.
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               THE WITNESS: The case was eventually
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- A. I don't know exactly what changes he's made, but I do believe that he's made changes as a response to comments that were made on his work for the Eucha modeling exercise.
- ${f Q}$ . Are you certain of that, sir, as you sit here today?
  - A. I believe that to be the case, yes.
- Q. Now, with regard to your opinion, state specifically what your opinion is with regard to whether or not waters in the Illinois River exhibit bacteria as a result of the land application of poultry litter.
- A. Again, I would say this is a general opinion based on the work that I have seen that was done by the experts for the Attorney General's office. We have not conducted studies to look at whether the magnitude of the poultry litter contributions compared to others, as we have for phosphorous.
- Q. Okay. So with regard to bacteria, you can't state that it is the principle or majority or -- excuse me, let me rephrase that. Badly worded. With regard to bacteria, you cannot offer an engineering opinion that poultry litter is the primary source of bacteria in waters in the Illinois River; right?
  - A. No, I'm not prepared to quantify it.

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Okay. Have you seen any work by any other scientist that has attempted to quantify the extent to which poultry litter is alleged to be the source of bacteria in the waters in the Illinois River Watershed?

- A. I don't believe so.
- Now, with regard to your opinions about bacteria, I think this takes us back to where we talked maybe an hour or so ago, your opinions are from reviewing an expert report prepared by an expert retained by the Attorney General's office; correct?
  - Correct. Α.
- Not through any independent engineering Q. evaluation that you conducted?
  - Correct. Α.
- 16 Let's look at paragraph 61, please, 17
  - Mr. Derichsweiler. Ready?
- 18 Again, we don't have Exhibit 4, I'm Α. 19 assuming, as well?
  - Have you personally formed any expert 0. opinion as to the cause or causes of the eutrophication of Lake Tenkiller?
    - A. Yes.
      - All right. State that opinion or opinions. Q.
      - I believe it is due to excessive phosphorous

loading to the lake.

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- Q. All right. This may sound circular, but if you're saying it is from excess phosphorous, have you developed yourself, sir, an expert opinion as to the source or sources of that excess phosphorous?
- A. Well, I think we just discussed the sources, but based on those same studies, I would have the same opinion. There are several sources, but I believe poultry litter is the largest source.
- $\boldsymbol{\mathsf{Q}}.$  Tell me what you mean when you say excess phosphorous.
- A. Well, as it is stated here, phosphorous sufficient to cause an overabundance of algae which results in the elevated chlorophyll a values we discussed, the elevated trophic state index and depleted oxygen in the lower levels of the lake.
- Q. Just so we can set the stage, you're not a limnologist; correct?
  - A. I'm not a limnologist.
- **Q.** Would you agree or do you have an expert opinion as to whether reservoirs created by the damming of the natural stream all tend to become eutrophic over time?
  - A. Eeutrophication is a natural process, yes.
  - Q. All right. And do you have an opinion as to

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whether the state of eutrophication of Lake Tenkiller
    is inappropriate for its age?
              I believe it is accelerated, yes.
         Α.
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              By what degree?
         Q.
              I wouldn't quantify it. I can't quantify
         Α.
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    it.
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         Q.
              Well, how -- Lake Tenkiller was created
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    when?
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              I don't have that date.
         Α.
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              It was in the '50s, though, do you agree?
         Q.
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              I don't know.
         Α.
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              Don't know? Well, then how can you make the
         Q.
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    statement that you think it is accelerated if you
14
    don't know how old the lake is?
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               It is an ongoing process.
         Α.
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              Well, tell me what accelerated means,
         Q.
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    Mr. Derichsweiler, faster than what?
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               There is a discrimination between natural
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    eutrophication and cultural eutrophication.
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    Eutrophication as a process is a natural process.
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    There is -- so it would be accelerated over natural
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    conditions due to inputs from human activities.
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               Do natural conditions based upon your
         Q.
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    definition assume there is no human population or
    activity within the watershed feeding the lake,
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reservoir, excuse me?

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- A. I don't know that you would assume that there are no human activities.
- Q. Well, these are your words. I'm trying to have you tell me what your words mean. If it is accelerated over natural conditions, what are the criteria for natural conditions?
- A. I think in general, that would be considered conditions in the absence of human activities, yes.
- Q. All right. So the fact that we have got somewhere between two and 300,000 people living in this watershed is a factor in accelerating the rate of eutrophication over what would have been the rate had no people lived in this watershed; true?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Now, can you identify the extent to which eutrophication has been accelerated solely resulting from the practice of land applying poultry litter in the Illinois River Watershed?
  - A. No.
- Q. Now, your prior testimony that eutrophication is from excess phosphorous, the basis for that statement, does that return us back to the testimony you have already given, that is the watershed studies by Dr. Storm, Dynamic Solutions and

the Clean Lakes study?

A. Yes.

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- Q. The state of eutrophication of Lake
  Tenkiller, how does it compare within the context of
  all of the lakes and reservoirs in the state of
  Oklahoma? Is it one of the better ones, one of the
  worst ones, in the middle of the pack?
- A. Well, I'm not prepared to quantify exactly where it would be, but I think it would be in the, towards the worst end of the scale, not the better end of the scale.
- ${f Q}.$  So you think Lake Tenkiller is one of the worst lakes in Oklahoma, is that your opinion?
- $oldsymbol{A}$ . I think it is towards the worst end of the scale.
  - Q. Okay.
    - A. I don't know how far -- I'm sorry.
    - O. What is the scale? What does that mean?
- A. Good to bad, better to worst. I can't quantify it, I'm just saying generally.
  - ${f Q}$ . Oklahoma has a lot of eutrophic and hypereutrophic lakes and reservoirs, doesn't it?
    - A. Yes.
  - ${f Q}$ . Oklahoma has very few non-eutrophic lakes and reservoirs; correct?

	Q.	And	your	basis	for	sayir	ng that	returns	us
back	to th	ne sa	ame in	nformat	ion	we ha	ave disc	cussed	
prev	iously	y, th	ne Dr	. Storm	n's v	vork,	Dynamic	c Solutio	ons'
work	and t	the (	Clean	Lakes	stuc	dy; tr	rue?		

A. Correct.

- Q. Now, your opinions, what specific work have you conducted to form your engineering opinion that phosphorous from poultry litter has contributed to the use of Lake Tenkiller as a drinking water source?
- A. I have not conducted any studies independent of the ones we have already mentioned.
- Q. To what extent, or can you describe for me what engineering work you have performed to come to the conclusion that poultry litter utilization in the Illinois River Watershed is responsible for a degradation in the aesthetics of waters in the Illinois River Watershed?
- ${f A.}$  I have not conducted any studies independent from the ones that we have already mentioned.
- Q. And is it the same answer with regard to dissolved oxygen?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. With regard to dissolved oxygen, what is -- what would one expect with a reservoir as deep as Lake Tenkiller? How deep into the water column would you